GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3689
ANSWERED ON:16.05.2006
REMOVAL OF IMPORT DUTY ON TEA
Acharia Shri Basudeb;Nahata Smt. P. Jaya Prada

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the issue of removal of import duty on Indian tea has been discussed with Pakistan as reported in Business Line date April 18, 2006;

(b) if so, facts and details thereof;

(c) the action taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard;

(d) whether Tea Association of India has also requested the Government to create a direct rail link between Guwahati and Karachi; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH)

(a): No Sir.

(b): Does not arise

(c): The matter regarding removal of import duty on Indian tea had earlier been taken up with the Government of Pakistan through the Indian High Commission.

(d) & (e): During the recent visit of a tea delegation from Pakistan, creation of a direct rail link between Guwahati and Karachi to facilitate tea trade was mooted.